



**MANDELA WASHINGTON
FELLOWSHIP**
FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

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"I have no doubt that you're going to leave behind for the next generation—and the generation after that—an Africa that is strong and vibrant and prosperous, and is ascendant on the world stage."

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA, TOWN HALL WITH MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWS, JULY 2014

THE MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS, begun in 2014, is the flagship program of President Obama's **YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE (YALI)** that empowers young people through academic coursework, leadership training, and networking. The Fellowship provides 500 outstanding young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa with the opportunity to hone their skills at a U.S. higher education institution, with support for professional development after they return home. The Fellows, who are between the ages of 25 and 35, have established records of accomplishment in promoting innovation and positive change in their organizations, institutions, communities, and countries. In 2014, Fellows represented all 49 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Fifty percent of Fellows were women; and for 82 percent of Fellows, it was their first time in the United States.

U.S.-BASED ACTIVITIES

Academic and Leadership

Institutes: Each Mandela Washington Fellow takes part in a six-week academic and leadership Institute at a U.S. university or college in one of three tracks: business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership or public management.

Business and Entrepreneurship

Clark Atlanta University
Dartmouth College
Northwestern University
University of Nevada Reno
University of Notre Dame
University of Texas at Austin
University of Wisconsin-Stout

Civic Leadership

Arizona State University
Presidential Precinct (College of William and Mary and the University of Virginia)
Rutgers University
Tulane University
University of California-Berkeley
University of Delaware
Wagner College

Public Management

Florida International University
Georgia State University
Howard University
Syracuse University
University of Minnesota
Virginia Commonwealth University



Presidential Summit: Following the academic component of the Fellowship, the Fellows visit Washington, D.C., for a presidential summit featuring a town hall with President Obama. During the three-day event, Fellows take part in networking and panel discussions with U.S. leaders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

Professional Development

Experience: 100 selected Fellows remain in the United States to participate in a six-week professional development experience with U.S. non-governmental organizations, private companies, and governmental agencies that relate to their professional interests and goals.

AFRICA-BASED ACTIVITIES

Upon returning to their home countries, Fellows continue to build the skills they have developed during their time in the United States through support from U.S. embassies, four Regional Leadership Centers, the YALI Network, and customized programming from USAID and affiliated partners. Through these experiences, Mandela Washington Fellows have access to ongoing professional development opportunities, mentoring, networking and training, and seed funding to support their ideas, businesses, and organizations.